

**UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON
(UNIFIL)**

Naqoura,
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PRESS RELEASE

UNIFIL Force Commander:

“I welcome the continued withdrawal of IDF”

The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) started to withdraw from two areas along the Blue Line: the area south of Naqoura, and the general area of Mays al Jabal.

The UNIFIL Indian and Ghanaian Battalions are to set up checkpoints and conduct patrols today in order to confirm the IDF withdrawal and coordinate the deployment of Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) into the area tomorrow.

“I welcome the continued withdrawal of IDF from South Lebanon, they have vacated most of the territory in the South. I expect the rest of the IDF troops to finalize their withdrawal by the end of the month,” said **UNIFIL Force Commander Major-General Alain Pellegrini**, *“We are almost there, and with the assistance of UNIFIL, LAF will very soon be able to take control of the whole South Lebanon including the areas along the Blue Line.”*

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